

**TITLE:**

*Role of Courts in Environmental Protection*

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**ABSTRACT:**

*This thesis deals with the role of courts in protection of the environment on the international, European and national level, when on the national level it deals with the areas of constitutional and criminal law. Based mainly on the analysis of activity and the case law of the courts, the aim of the thesis is mainly to determine the development of the role of courts in protection of the environment, which means whether the number of cases brought before court increases and whether court decisions affect protection of environment positively or not. To achieve this objective, methods as abstraction, analysis, synthesis, deduction, comparison and statistics are used. Using these methods it was found out that although case law in certain areas of protection of environment is fragmented and not much rich, which is mainly due to the fact that this area of law is young and dynamic and the substantive law is fragmented and unclear, the role and importance of the courts in protection of environment grows with the increasing number of cases handled. The issue and the problem to face in the future will be enforcement of judicial decisions.*

**KEYWORDS:**

*Environmental Protection, Role of Courts, Practice of the Courts, PhD thesis*